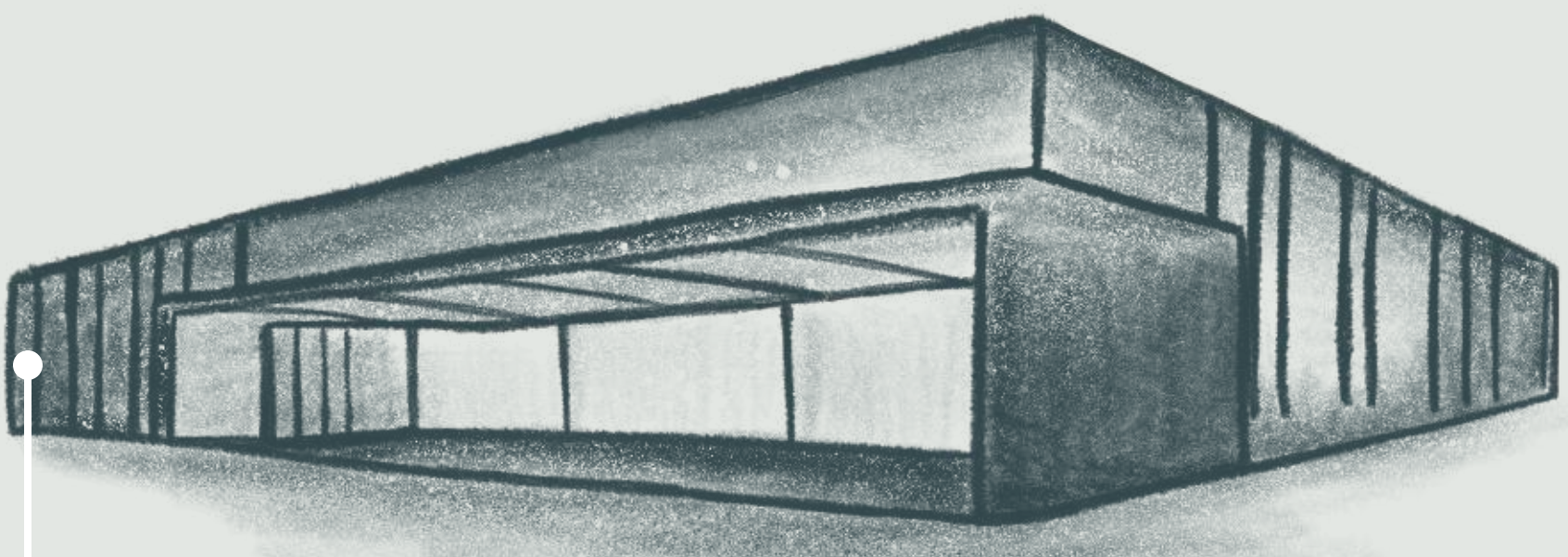
Defining
Modern Architecture

With the passage of time, what we consider “Modern Architecture” has changed. Sometime around the early to mid-20th Century, architects began to reject past styles and started forging a completely unique methodology. Names like Frank Lloyd Wright, Frank Gehry, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe laid the foundation for a movement that continues to challenge the traditional approach. In the wake of their contributions, Modern Architecture has been defined by the following features:

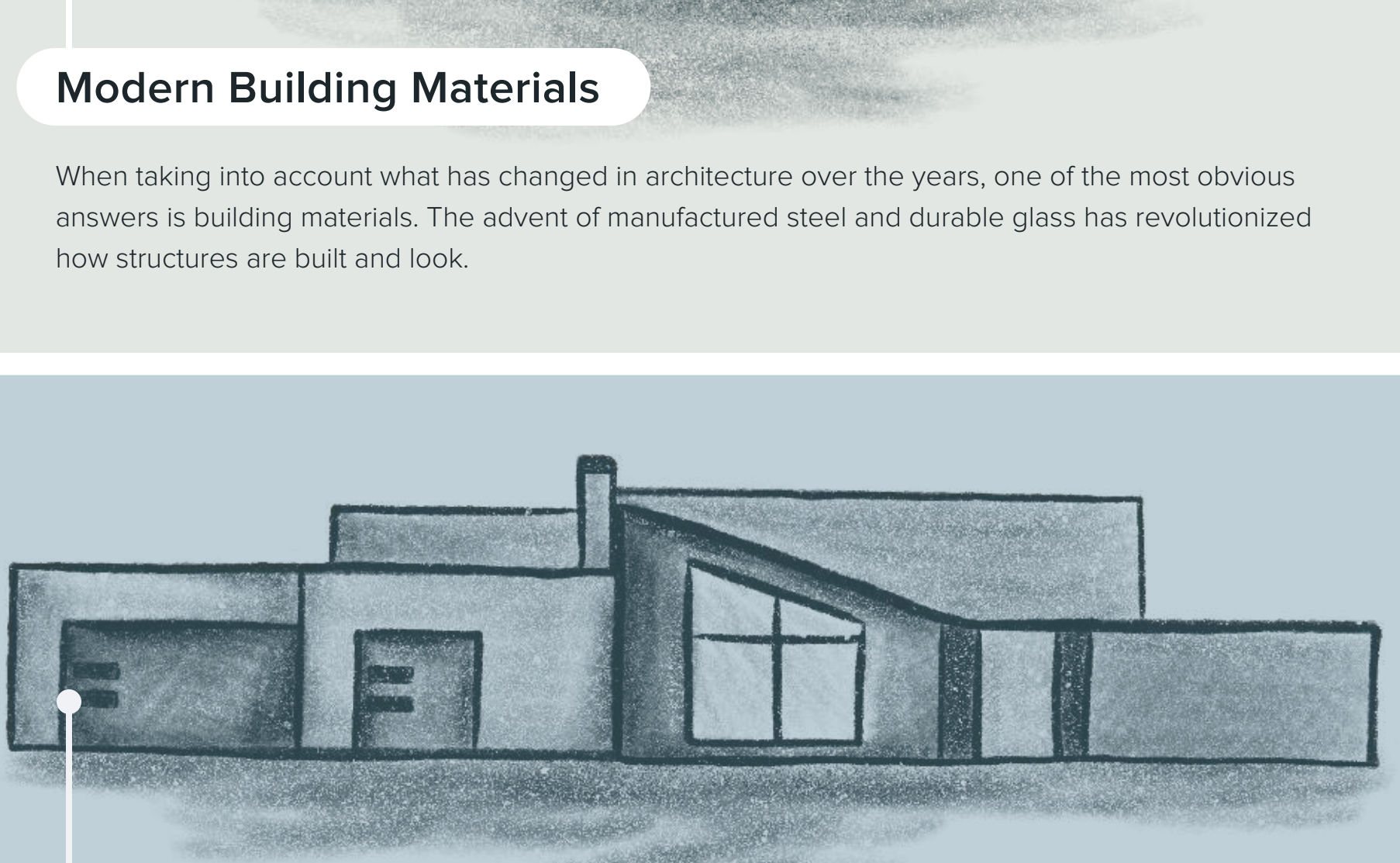
Open Space

Anyone who has ever stayed in an old hotel or watched a game in an old stadium can tell you that modern architecture embraces the idea of open space as opposed to the buildings of the past. Functionality and efficiency still play large roles in the designs of modern buildings, however, many architects make allowances for expansive open areas. This trend is most evident in office buildings, where open floor plans have become the preferred layout.



Modern Building Materials

When taking into account what has changed in architecture over the years, one of the most obvious answers is building materials. The advent of manufactured steel and durable glass has revolutionized how structures are built and look.



Minimalist Design

The level of detail in modern design is incredibly simple compared to almost every other era of architecture.

Clean Lines

Bold and simplistic geometric shapes have become the calling card, especially for the exteriors of modern buildings. These designs borrow heavily from the Art Deco movement which began in the mid-1920’s.